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TIMBER INDUSTRY PROMOTES TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

TECHNICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES CONTEST -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', No 3, Mar 50

VNITOLES (All-Union Scientific Engineering and Technical Society of Forestry and the Timber Industry) and the Inventions Bureau of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR announce an open competition for the most feasible suggestions for utilizing timber cutting waste products and machines for processing them.

Suggestions should be in line with the following possible uses for timber cutting waste products:

1. As fuel

   a. Machines for cutting up the waste products into wood-gas generator fuel.

   b. Machines for briquetting the waste products.

   c. Machines for putting the waste products into transportable form.

   d. Other ways of using the waste products as fuel.

2. As raw materials for the wood chemical industry

   a. Light mobile apparatus for producing acetic acid, turpentine, tar, alcohol powders, and essential oils.

   b. Light mobile apparatus for producing potash.

   c. Other ways of using the waste products as raw materials for the wood chemical industry.

3. As material for the building industry

   a. Machines for producing building blocks from the waste materials.

   b. Other ways of using the waste materials for construction purposes.

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4. All other ways of using the waste products in the interest of the national economy.

Both collectives and individuals are entitled to take part in the competition. The following prizes are offered:

1	First prize	50,000 rubles
5	Second prizes	30,000 " each
10	Third prizes	15,000 " "
15	Consolation prizes	2,000 " "

The competition will run from 1 January 1950 to 1 July 1950.

URGES ADOPTION OF NEW SKIDDING -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', No 6, Jun 50

Skidding of timber in the form of boles with bucking at the lower yarding point has in recent times widely replaced bucking in the cutting area and skid ding in bucked lengths. This method permits concentration of bucking machinery at the lower yarding point, more efficient sorting of timber lengths, and better working conditions for the bucking workers as a result of allowing them to live near their places of work in well-constructed settlements. This method, however, still calls for a large number of workers in the forest for limbing the felled trees (still a manual operation) and collecting and burning the branches.

In April 1948, A. I. Larionov, docent of the Siberian Forestry Engineering Institute, and in 1949, Engineer P. I. Dolinin of Alapayevsklesdrevmet (Alapayevsk Metallurgical Timber and Lumber) Trust of the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy proposed that boles be skidded in unlimbed form with limbing to be completed at the upper yarding point. In 1949 and especially in the first quarter of 1950, this method was utilized for the first time in many leading logging enterprises.

Among the enterprises experimenting with the new method are Kirishi and Lodeynoye Pole timber managements of Lenles (Leningrad Timber) Trust, Kichmengskiy Gorodok Timber Management of Ustyugles (Ustyug Timber) Trust, Syurekskiy Timber Management of Udmurtles (Udmurt Timber) Combine, Pay Timber Management of Yuzhkarelles (South Karelian Timber) Trust, enterprises of Molotovles (Molotov Timber) Combine, and West Siberian enterprises. Some enterprises are skidding the unlimbed boles with the butt end forward, others with the crown forward. Syurekskiy Timber Management went beyond the other enterprises and experimented with practical ways of utilizing the branches as industrial fuel.

The cumulative experience gained in skidding unlimbed boles was generalized at a conference of workers participating in the experiments held in May of this year by the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR. At the conference the advantages of this new method were listed as increased labor productivity, an increase in average production per worker engaged on the production line, and a reduction in the number of workers required on the line. These advantages are the result, mainly, of transferring limbing operations from the forest to the upper yarding point.

Transfer of limbing operations to one place -- the upper yarding point -- creates the conditions for mechanizing this work. There is no doubt that Soviet designers will work out simple but effective machinery for limbing work.

The problem of utilizing the branches which will accumulate in large quantities at the upper yarding point in the interest of the national economy is an important one. Since the branches constitute 10-12 percent of the total mass of a tree, it is clear that in the past millions of cubic meters of a valuable

resource have been burned annually in the USSR. It is necessary to study the possibilities of briquetting the branches for fuel, processing them for wood alcohol products, or using them in other ways. Timber industry specialists are already working on this problem.

In the introduction of any new method, there will be critics among those who prefer to work according to old methods. These will point to the inexpediency and lack of economy of this new method. At the very beginning of this new development in logging operations, S. I. Orehkin, a great specialist in the field of logging technology and at present deputy director of the Central Scientific Research Institute for the Mechanization and Electrification of Logging, declared in the early part of 1949 that the method proposed by Larionov had no practical value since it reduced labor productivity. However, Oreshkin acknowledges the error of his opinion in a letter to the editors of Lesnaya Promyshlennost'.

L. V. Roos, chief engineer of the Technical Administration for Logging and Floating, Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR, played an especially ugly role in this matter. The task of the administration is to work ceaselessly for the introduction of new progressive operating methods and to encourage the initiative of designers in developing their ideas. But when Roos received a letter from Larionov in December 1948 asking that his method of skidding unlimbed boles receive study, Roos replied with a harsh refusal.

Temporary instructions in regard to labor organization and operational techniques have been worked out for the new method. These temporary instructions have been approved by the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR.

It is the duty of the union republican ministries of timber and paper industry, the logging main administrations, and the trusts to lend all possible aid in introducing the new method of skidding unlimbed boles into the logging industry and, first of all, into the model-experimental timber managements.

ORESHKIN ACKNOWLEDGES MERIT OF SKIDDING METHOD -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', No 6, Jun 50

Dear Comrade Editor!

In connection with the new method of skidding timber in the form of unlimbed boles, I think it necessary to state that the idea for such a method, although untested in practice, was conceived in 1948 by Docent A. I. Larionov

When the proposal of Comrade Larionov was presented to me in a general way in February 1949 for an expert opinion, I made a negative evaluation which was subsequently shown to be an erroneous evaluation.

Practice has shown that a number of negative factors which formed the basis for my evaluation of Comrade Larionov's proposal are compensated for by other technological and organizational factors which I had not considered.

The latest information shows that because of these factors, skidding production is not reduced and the over-all average output per worker is increased.

I request that you publish this letter in your periodical in connection with the series of articles about the new skidding method

(signed) S. ORESHKIN

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TRUST EXPERIMENTS IN SKIDDING UNLIMBED BOLES -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', No 6, Jun 50

Skidding of unlimbed boles was organized in Kirishi and Lodeynoye Pole timber managements of Lenles (Leningrad Timber) Trust during the first quarter of 1950. TL-3 winches were used in Kirishi; KT-12 tractors in Lodeynoye Pole Timber Management.

Two methods of skidding were tried out: with butt end forward and with the crown forward. The latter method proved to be better; it permits twice as many trips by the skidder as the former.

Lenles Trust is at present expanding the introduction of unlimbed bole skidding operations. -- A I. Zaytsev and B. A. Il'in

TRUST SKIDS UNTOPPED BOLES BY WINCH -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', N. 5, May 50

Skidding untopped boles by winch was undertaken during the first quarter of 1950 in several enterprises of Ustyugles Trust. The forests of these enterprises contain more than 50 percent spruce (Picea) and have resources of 100-150 cubic meters per hectare. In contrast to ordinary procedure, limbing and burning of branches was then done at the bucking areas located at the upper yarding points of the enterprises rather than in the cutting area.

The first experiment in skidding unlimbed boles by TL-3 winch was carried out at Maymangskiy Logging Point of Kichmengskiy Gorodok Timber Management; because this method proved to be more economical than the customary method of skidding boles after branches had been removed, it was applied also in other enterprises of the trust.

One of the main advantages of the new method of skidding untopped and unlimbed boles is the reduction in number of workers required for limbing and burning branches. -- V. V. Kreknin, Engineer, Glavseverokomiles (Main Administration for Northern and Komi Timber) and S. N. Luk'yanchikov, Chief Engineer, Ustyugles (Ustyug Timber) Trust.

MANAGEMENT TRIES SKIDDING UNTOPPED BOLES BY TRACTOR -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', No 5, May 50

Experiments in skidding untopped boles by KT-12 tractor were undertaken at Nyuda Logging Center of Pay Model-Experimental Timber Management of Yuzhkareles (South Karelian Timber) Trust. The timber being cut by Nyuda Logging Center is 90 percent spruce (Picea) and 10 percent pine (Pinus), with some admixture of birch (Betula) and aspen (Populus Tremula). Resources amount to 180 cubic meters per hectare. The trees average 18 meters in height and 20 centimeters in diameter.

Since processing the cutting area waste materials was not part of the experiment, the branches which were removed at the yarding point were burned.

During the first days of the operation, the untopped boles were skidded with the butt end forward. Later, they were skidded with the crown forward.

One of the advantages of skidding boles before they are limbed is a reduction in the number of workers needed to limb them and burn the branches, because their work is more localized. Felling trees with their tops reduces the possibility that drifting snow will cover and conceal them.

The results of the experiment indicate that skidding boles with their crowns may become an important development in logging technology of the future. -- Engineers N. P. Dolgopolov and P. Ye. Petrov

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MANAGEMENT HAULS UNTOPPED BOLES BY NARROW-GAUGE RAILROAD -- Lesnaya Promyshlennost', No 5, May 50

Experiments in skidding and hauling untopped boles were carried on at Oktyabrskiy Logging Point of Suslonger Timber Management of Mariles (Mari Timber) Trust with Povolzhskiy (Volga Region) Forestry Engineering Institute participating in the experiments.

Untopped boles were skidded to the loading point and then loaded on narrow-gauge railroad cars by electric crane. At the lower yarding point, the boles were unloaded from the flat cars by TL-3 which, limbed, bucked, and sorted.

This technological process of handling timber calls for the use of a special limbing machine at the lower yarding point. In attempting to design such a limbing machine, the writer carried out experiments in fitting an Amsler-type punch press with a knife The experiments led the writer to the conclusion that the design of such a machine is feasible. -- V. Pechenkin

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